

Life Group Discussion Guide

Week of November 8th | Romans 3:9-20

Groups should care, learn, and pray together, using these questions as a guide to respond to God.

Questions

1. Read Romans 3:9–12. What words or phrases does Paul use to describe the human condition? What do you think Paul means when he says we are all "under the power of sin"? Follow-up: How is that different from simply saying that everyone commits sins?

2. The message described sin as a sickness that produces symptoms and said, "The sickness of sin turns us in on ourselves." Where do you see that inward pull showing up most easily in your own life: your desires, plans, comfort, reputation, relationships, or something else?

3. Read Romans 3:13–17. What connections do you see between what is happening inside us and the words we speak or the paths we choose? Can you think of a recent situation where something coming out of you revealed something deeper going on within you?

4. The message identifies a central lie beneath sin: "I think my way is better than God's." Where are you most tempted to believe that right now? What would trusting God's way look like in that area?

5. Read Romans 3:18. How did the message define the "fear of God?" How does that understanding differ from being afraid of God? Practically, how might a greater awareness of who God is turn your attention away from yourself and back toward him?

6. Read Romans 3:19–20. The message compares God's Word to an X-ray: it can reveal what is broken, but it cannot heal us. What has God's Word been exposing in you lately that you need to bring to Jesus rather than simply trying harder to fix?

7. Paul leaves us with a difficult diagnosis: we are guilty, we cannot heal ourselves, and we cannot rescue ourselves from sin's power. Why is understanding that bad news necessary for understanding how good the good news really is? As you look ahead to Romans 3:21 and Paul's words "But now…", what makes you most grateful that the answer is Jesus?